

# A Separate Plate for My Pickle

for theremin ensemble

Barry R. Morse

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## Notes

*A Separate Plate for My Pickle* is for a theremin ensemble of any size. From the Introduction the bottom part is played by one player, the upper improvised solo is for one player and the inner voices (rhythmic chords) are for the rest of the players, however many there may be. Beginning with the Introduction, four solo players alternate like so: Solo player 1 plays “lead” improvised solo in any style, solo player 4 plays the bottom part “bass line”, solo players 2 and 3 as well as all the rest of the ensemble play the inner parts. At B the solo players rotate: player 1 drops down to the bass, player 4 moves up to play inner parts with player 3 and all other players, and solo player 2 becomes the new “lead” soloist. Parts continue to rotate in this way until the Postlude.

All players read from the score. A leader will have to conduct the *rubato* sections (Prelude/Postlude) with head nods.

Pitch indications are relative to other players and to the range of each instrument: each system is divided into High Middle and Low ranges. It is up to each player to decide where his/her pitches belong.

*Vibrato* should be “normal” and not excessive except where marked “whammy bar” *vibrato*, which is a deep rhythmic, rock guitar-like effect. Players should synchronize their *vibrato* rhythms.

Style is open to interpretation (rock, electronica, contemporary classical, etc.) and may vary within the piece.

Repeated bass notes should not vary within the phrase. Bass line phrase modulation need not correspond to traditional or expected root/chord movement.

Duration c. 5'15"

Other compositions by Barry R. Morse for multiple theremins:

*Xeriscape for multiple theremins* (2005)

*Xeriscape 2 for multiple theremins and multiple percussion* (2006)

*Xeriscape 3 for multiple theremins, multiple percussion and concert band* (2006)

*Theregraphs for multiple theremins* (2010)

*Textures and Techniques: seven short etudes for multiple theremins* (2011)



Indeterminate pitch, relative to notated range and other players



Indeterminate chords/clusters result from several players each following melodic contour relative to own instrument and other players. Do not attempt to play traditional harmonies.



*glissando*



Slight pause/silence before next downbeat



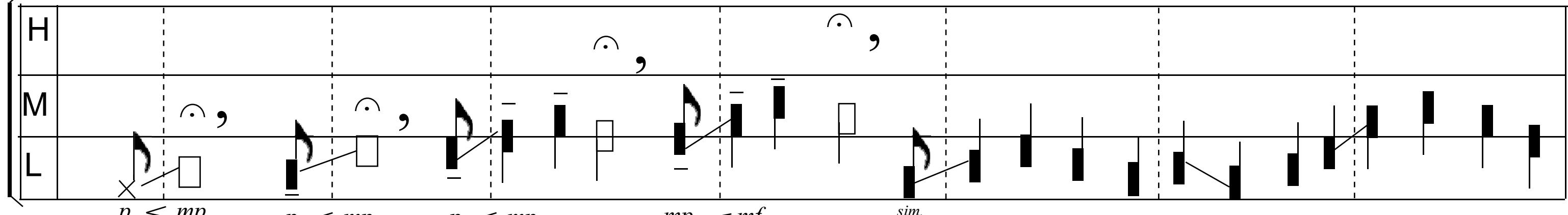
“Whammy bar” *vibrato*. Deep, rhythmical *vibrato* should be synchronized with all players

## (Prelude)

Slowly, rubato

Tempo I  = 80-112

poco accelerando...



Staves: H, M, L

Measure 1:  $p < mp$

Measure 2:  $p < mp$

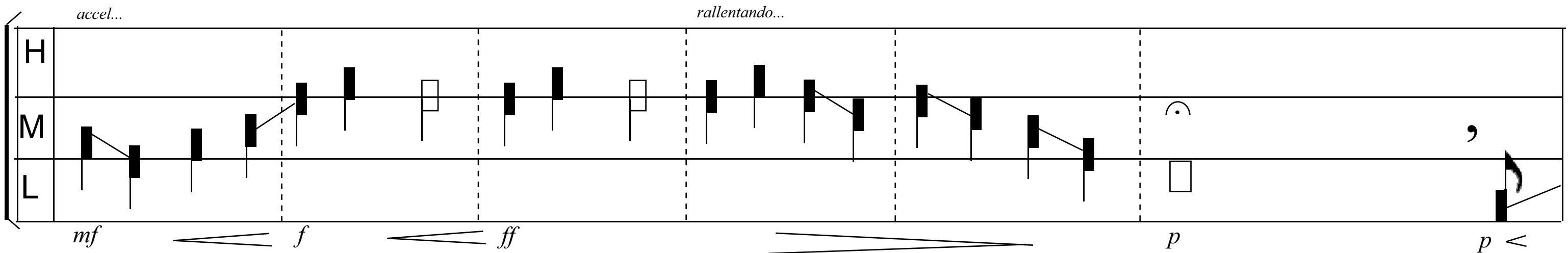
Measure 3:  $p < mp$

Measure 4:  $mp < mf$

Measure 5:  $sim. p$

Measure 6: *poco a poco crescendo...*

Measure 7:  $mp$



Staves: H, M, L

Measure 1: *accel...*

Measure 2: *rallentando...*

Measure 3:  $mf$

Measure 4:  $f$

Measure 5:  $ff$

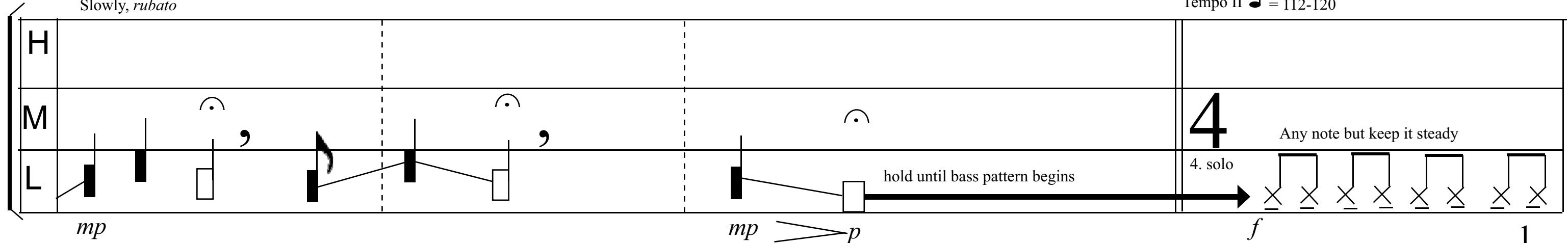
Measure 6:  $p$

Measure 7:  $p <$



## (Introduction)

Tempo II  = 112-120



Staves: H, M, L

Measure 1: *Slowly, rubato*

Measure 2:  $mp$

Measure 3:  $mp$

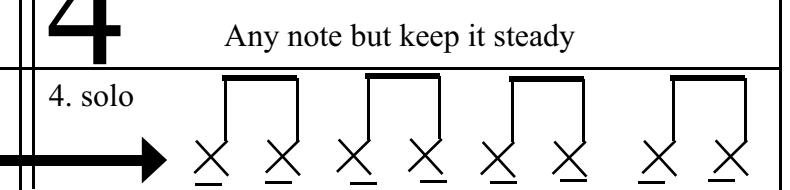
Measure 4:  $p > p$

Measure 5: hold until bass pattern begins

Measure 6:  $f$

Measure 7: 1

Measure 8: **4** Any note but keep it steady

Measure 9: 4. solo → 

3X

2X

2-3 all other players

*f*

“whammy bar” vibrato

A

8X

1. solo, any style

*f*

“whammy bar” vibrato

Maintain same pitch as before

Change to a higher pitch

2

Return pattern to previous pitch level

**B** 8X

H 2. solo, any style

M :

L :

1. new player, new pitches

3-4 all players *f*

Change pattern to a higher pitch level

Return pattern to previous pitch level

**C**

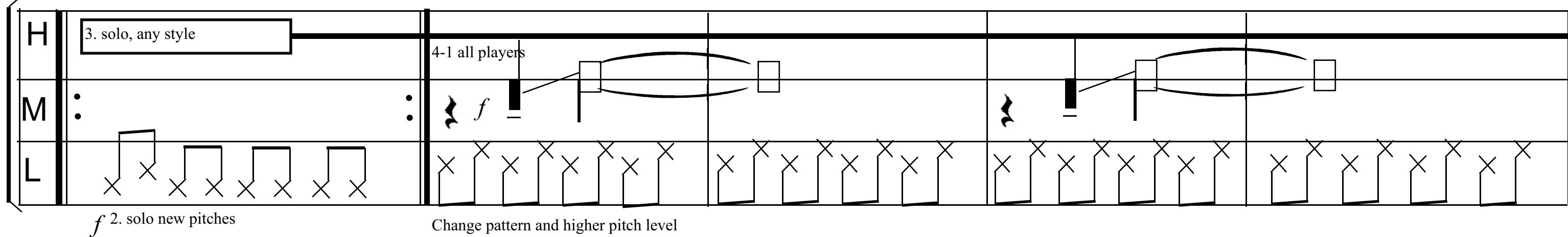
All players

*poco rit.*

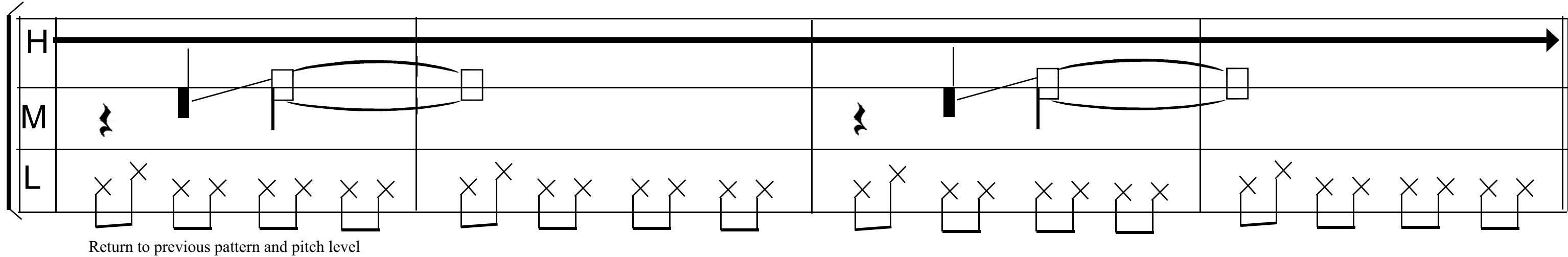
*mp*

3

D 8X Tempo II  $\text{♩} = 112-120$



Score for section D, 8X tempo, 2/4 time. The score is divided into two main sections by a vertical bar. The first section (measures 1-4) includes three staves: H (top), M (middle), and L (bottom). Staff H contains a box labeled "3. solo, any style". Staff M contains a dynamic marking *f*. Staff L contains a box labeled "2. solo new pitches". The second section (measures 5-8) is labeled "4-1 all players" and includes a dynamic marking *f*. The score concludes with a double bar line and the instruction "Change pattern and higher pitch level".



Continuation of section D, starting with a double bar line. The score consists of three staves: H (top), M (middle), and L (bottom). Staff H has a long horizontal line with an arrow pointing right. Staff M contains a dynamic marking *f*. Staff L contains a box labeled "Return to previous pattern and pitch level". The score concludes with a double bar line.

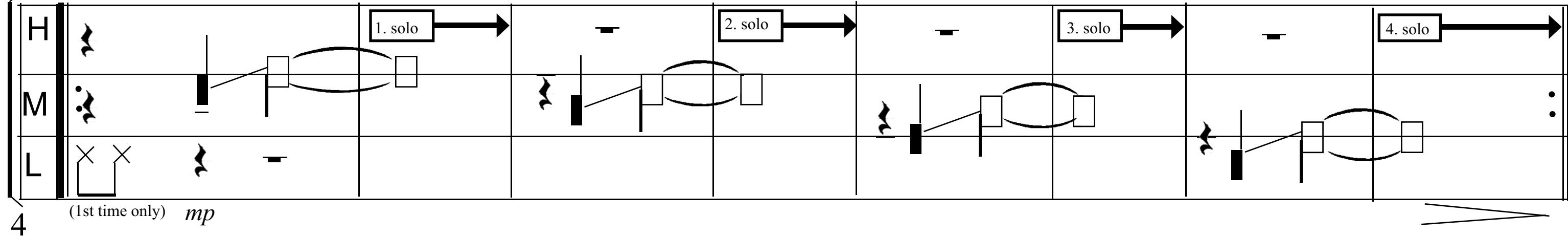


E 2X

All players but soloist

*sim.*

*poco rit.*



Score for section E, 2X tempo, 2/4 time. The score is divided into four measures, each featuring a soloist (indicated by a box) and the remaining players (indicated by a bracket). The soloists are labeled "1. solo", "2. solo", "3. solo", and "4. solo". Each solo section is preceded by a dynamic marking *mp* and followed by a dynamic marking *poco rit.*. The score concludes with a double bar line and a fermata.

**F** 8X Tempo II  $\text{♩} = 112-120$

**H** 4. solo, any style

**M** :

**L**  $f$  3. solo, any two pitches

**f** 1-2 all players

Change pitch level

**H**

**M**

**L** Return to previous pattern and pitch level

**G** 2X

All players but soloist

*sim.*

**H** 1. solo →

**M** (1st time only)  $mp$

**L**

2. solo →

3. solo →

4. solo →

[2nd time *poco rit.* ]

5

